

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, Claim 68 has been amended to recite certain additional distinctive features of Applicants' invention, as discussed in detail below. Claim 77 has been amended for consistency, and Claims 58-67 and 78-87 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New Claims 88-94 have been added. Claims 1-57 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, Claims 68-77 and 88-94 are pending.

In the Office Action, Claims 58-60, 62-66, 68-70, 72-76, 78-80 and 82-86 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Li in combination with Jung, and Claims 61, 67, 71, 77, 81 and 87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Li and Jung in combination variously with Narushima or Long.

Without acceding to the rejections, Claim 68 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, that the plurality of terminals are arranged in a quadrangular frame having an equal number of rows and columns, and to recite a step (e) of clamping, during the sealing step of (d), the tape between an upper die and a lower die, in which the lower die includes a plurality of vacuum suction holes. Support is provided, for example, at pages 11, 39-40 and Figs. 2, 16-21

of Applicants' disclosure. It is apparent that the applied references do not teach or suggest this combination of features.

New Claim 88 recites, *inter alia*, the step of (b) forming a plurality of terminals in the product forming portion, the plurality of terminals arranged in a quadrangular frame having an equal number of rows and columns, by a screen printing method comprising (b1) placing a mask on the main surface of the tape in contacting state; (b2) applying a conductor paste onto the mask to print the plurality of terminals and a semiconductor fixing piece; (b3) removing the mask; and (b4) baking the printed conductor paste to form the plurality of terminals and the semiconductor fixing piece. Support is provided, for example, at pages 11, 36-37 and Figs. 2 and 14 of Applicants' disclosure. It is apparent that the applied references do not teach or suggest this combination of features.


Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 68 and 88 and their respective dependent claims distinguish patentably from the applied references.

A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10186) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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